

O I P FOR UTILITY/DESIGN  
CIP/CT NATIONAL/PLANT  
ORIGINAL/SUBSTITUTE/SUPPLEMENTAL  
DECLARATIONS

MAR 22 2001

RULE 63 (37 C.F.R. 1.6)  
DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR PATENT APPLICATION  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PM&S  
FORM

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the INVENTION ENTITLED FOAMED THERMOPLASTIC RESIN ARTICLE

the specification of which (CHECK applicable BOX(ES))

X → [ ] is attached hereto.

BOX(ES) → [X] was filed on February 7, 2001 as U.S. Application No. 0 /

→ [ ] was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/ / on

→ → and (if U.S. or PCT application amended) was amended on

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate filed by me or my assignee disclosing the subject matter claimed in this application and having a filing date (1) before that of the application on which priority is claimed, or (2) if no priority claimed, before the filing date of this application:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)	Date first Laid-open or Published	Date Patented or Granted	Priority Claimed
<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/MONTH/Year Filed</u>	<u>Yes</u> <u>No</u>
2000-041127	Japan	18 February, 2000	x

I hereby claim domestic priority benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119/120/365 of the indicated United States applications listed below and PCT international applications listed above or below and, if this is a continuation-in-part (CIP) application, insofar as the subject matter disclosed and claimed in this application is in addition to that disclosed in such prior applications, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which became available between the filing date of each such prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL, NONPROVISIONAL AND/OR PCT APPLICATION(S)	Status	Priority Claimed
<u>Application No. (series code/serial no.)</u>	<u>Day/MONTH/Year Filed</u>	<u>Yes</u> <u>No</u>

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

And I hereby appoint Pillsbury Madison & Sutro LLP, Intellectual Property Group, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Ninth Floor, East Tower, Washington, D.C. 20005-3918, telephone number (202) 861-3000 (to whom all communications are to be directed), and the below-named persons (of the same address) individually and collectively my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and with the resulting patent, and I hereby authorize them to delete names/numbers below of persons no longer with their firm and to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct the above Firm and/or a below attorney in writing to the contrary.

Paul N. Kokulis	16773	David W. Brinkman	20817	Michelle N. Lester	32331	Ruth N. Morduch	31044
Raymond F. Lippitt	17519	George M. Sirilla	18221	G. Paul Edgell	24238	Richard H. Zaitlen	27248
G. Lloyd Knight	17698	Donald J. Bird	25323	Lynn E. Eccleston	35861	Roger R. Wise	31204
Carl G. Love	18781	Peter W. Gowdy	25872	David A. Jakopin	32995	Jay M. Finkelstein	21082
Edgar H. Martin	20534	Dale S. Lazar	28872	Mark G. Paulson	30793	Anita M. Kirkpatrick	32617
William K. West, Jr.	22057	Glenn J. Perry	28458	Timothy J. Klima	34852	Michael R. Dzwonczyk	36787
Kevin E. Joyce	20508	Kendrew H. Colton	30368	Stephen C. Glazier	31361		
Edward M. Prince	22429	Paul E. White, Jr.	32011	Paul F. McQuade	31542		

1. INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Nobuhiro Imai Date February 14, 2001

Inventor's Name (typed)	Nobuhiro	USUI	JAPAN
First	Middle Initial	Family Name	Country of Citizenship
Residence (City)	Takatsuki-shi	(State/Foreign Country)	Osaka, JAPAN

Post Office Address (Include Zip Code) 1-9-1-501, Tamaqawa, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, JAPAN

2. INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Takeo Kitayama Date February 14, 2001

Inventor's Name (typed)	Takeo	KITAYAMA	JAPAN
First	Middle Initial	Family Name	Country of Citizenship
Residence (City)	Ibaraki-shi	(State/Foreign Country)	Osaka, JAPAN

Post Office Address (Include Zip Code) 2-50-410, Iwakura-cho, Ibaraki-shi, Osaka, JAPAN

3. INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's Name (typed)			
First	Middle Initial	Family Name	Country of Citizenship
Residence (City)		(State/Foreign Country)	

Post Office Address (Include Zip Code) \_\_\_\_\_

(FOR ADDITIONAL INVENTORS, check box [ ] and attach sheet (PAT-116.2) for same information for each re signature, name, date, citizenship, residence and address.)

Rule 56(a) & (b) = 37 C.F.R.1.56(a) & (b)  
**PATENT AND TRADEMARK CASES - RULES OF PRACTICE**  
**DUTY OF DISCLOSURE**

(a) ...Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the [Patent and Trademark] Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability... (b) information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative and (1) It also establishes by itself, or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim or (2) refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in: (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

**PATENT LAWS 35 U.S.C.**

**§102. Conditions for patentability; novelty and loss of right to patent**

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless--

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent or
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of the application for patent in the United States, or
- (c) he has abandoned the invention, or
- (d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months\* before the filing of the application in the United States, or
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or
- (f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or
- (g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another who had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other.

**§103. Condition for patentability; non-obvious subject matter**

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made. Subject matter developed by another person, which qualified as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

\* Six months for Design Applications (35 U.S.C. 172).